

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE
PRINT 117-8
OFFERED BY MR. SUOZZI OF NEW YORK

At the end of title III of division D of the bill, add
the following:

1 SEC. 9307. NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL NETWORK.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 249 of title 49, United
3 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 24905
4 the following:

5 “§ 24905A. North Atlantic Rail Corporation; North At-
6 lantic Rail Network

7 “(a) NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL CORPORATION.—

8 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180
9 days after the date of the enactment of this section,
10 the Secretary of Transportation shall establish the
11 North Atlantic Rail Corporation (referred to in this
12 section as the ‘Corporation’) to carry out the pur-
13 pose described in paragraph (3).

14 “(2) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

15 “(A) COMPOSITION.—The Corporation
16 shall be governed by a board of directors, which
17 shall be composed of 17 directors, of whom—

1 “(i) 1 director shall be appointed by
2 the Secretary of Transportation;

3 “(ii) 1 director shall be appointed by
4 the Secretary of Labor;

5 “(iii) 1 director shall be appointed by
6 the Secretary of Commerce;

7 “(iv) 2 directors shall be appointed by
8 the Governor of Connecticut;

9 “(v) 2 directors shall be appointed by
10 the Governor of Maine;

11 “(vi) 2 directors shall be appointed by
12 the Governor of Massachusetts;

13 “(vii) 2 directors shall be appointed
14 by the Governor of New Hampshire;

15 “(viii) 2 directors shall be appointed
16 by the Governor of New York;

17 “(ix) 2 directors shall be appointed by
18 the Governor of Rhode Island; and

19 “(x) 2 directors shall be appointed by
20 the Governor of Vermont.

21 “(B) TERM; QUALIFICATIONS.—Of the di-
22 rectors appointed pursuant to each of the
23 clauses (iv) through (x) of paragraph (1)—

1 “(i) 1 shall be the head of the respec-
2 tive State department of transportation;
3 and

4 “(ii) the other director appointed by
5 the respective governor—

6 “(I) shall serve for a 5-year term;

7 “(II) shall be a resident of the
8 appointing governor’s State;

9 “(III) may not be an employee of
10 the Government of such State; and

11 “(IV) shall be an expert in trans-
12 portation policy, finance, public policy,
13 planning or a related discipline associ-
14 ated with the purpose and mission of
15 the Corporation.

16 “(C) NO COMPENSATION.—Directors shall
17 serve without pay, but shall receive travel ex-
18 penses, including per diem in lieu of subsist-
19 ence, in accordance with applicable provisions of
20 subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United
21 States Code.

22 “(3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Corpora-
23 tion shall be to construct, on an accelerated basis,
24 the North Atlantic Rail Network in order—

1 “(A) to provide clean, safe, and efficient
2 high speed and high performance rail transpor-
3 tation in the 7-State North Atlantic Rail Net-
4 work region;

5 “(B) to reduce carbon emissions from auto
6 and air transportation in such region in order
7 to meet 2030 and 2050 United States emissions
8 reductions targets; and

9 “(C) to provide job opportunities and eco-
10 nomic development in the cities and regions
11 served by the North Atlantic Rail Network.

12 “(4) STAFFING.—The directors and officers of
13 the Corporation may appoint and fix the pay of such
14 personnel, as they consider necessary and appro-
15 priate, to advance the construction of the design and
16 construction of the North Atlantic Rail Network on
17 an accelerated basis.

18 “(5) COORDINATION WITH NORTHEAST COR-
19 RIDOR COMMISSION AND AMTRAK.—The Corpora-
20 tion, in designing and constructing the North Atlan-
21 tic Rail Network, shall coordinate and cooperate
22 with—

23 “(A) the Northeast Corridor Commission
24 with respect to its planning activities; and

1 “(B) Amtrak with respect to its projects
2 and undertakings in the Northeast Corridor.

3 “(b) NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL NETWORK.—

4 “(1) CREATION.—In addition to the existing
5 service along the Northeast Corridor, the Corpora-
6 tion shall create the North Atlantic Rail Network,
7 which shall include—

8 “(A) high-speed rail service between Bos-
9 ton and New York;

10 “(B) a high-performance network of
11 branch lines throughout the 7-State region; and

12 “(C) an integrated network of metropolitan
13 regional rail transportation connections to the
14 hub ends of the high-speed rail service referred
15 to in subparagraph (A), consistent with the
16 plan entitled ‘North Atlantic Rail Network’ sub-
17 mitted by the North Atlantic Rail initiative to
18 the Secretary of Transportation.

19 “(2) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Corporation—

20 “(A) may receive appropriations and obli-
21 gate funds—

22 “(i) to plan, design, engineer, permit,
23 and acquire property (including railroad
24 rights-of-way);

1 “(ii) to conduct competitive procure-
2 ments in accordance with Department of
3 Transportation policies and procedures;

4 “(iii) to enter into construction con-
5 tracts;

6 “(iv) to form project labor agree-
7 ments; and

8 “(v) to carry out any other activity re-
9 lated to the construction of the North At-
10 lantic Rail Network;

11 “(B) may utilize all design-build and other
12 alternative procurement policies and practices
13 approved by the Department of Transportation;

14 “(C) shall utilize expedited reviews for in-
15 frastructure investment within existing rights of
16 way under the National Environmental Policy
17 Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

18 “(D) may contract with Amtrak, State de-
19 partments of transportation, or related oper-
20 ating entities within the 7-State North Atlantic
21 Rail Network region to design or construct ele-
22 ments of the North Atlantic Rail Network.

23 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—If a State depart-
24 ment of transportation or its related operating entity
25 owns the right of way for a rail line segment within

1 the North Atlantic Rail Network, such department
2 or entity shall be responsible for the design and con-
3 struction of improvements on such segment of the
4 North Atlantic Rail Network unless such department
5 or entity submits a written declination of such re-
6 sponsibility to the Board of Directors of the North
7 Atlantic Rail Corporation”.

8 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
9 ter 249 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
10 inserting after the item relating to section 24905 the fol-
11 lowing:

“24905A. North Atlantic Rail Corporation; North Atlantic Rail Network.”.

12 (c) SUNSET.—Upon the earlier of the completion of
13 the construction of all of the elements of the North Atlan-
14 tic Rail Network created pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of
15 section 24905A of title 49, United States Code, as added
16 by this Act, or the date that is 20 years after the date
17 of the enactment of this Act—

18 (1) the North Atlantic Rail Corporation estab-
19 lished pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of such section
20 shall be dissolved; and

21 (2) the assets of the North Atlantic Rail Cor-
22 poration that have not previously been transferred
23 shall be transferred to the State, regional transpor-

- 1 tation authority, or Amtrak that operates such asset,
- 2 as determined by the Secretary of Transportation.

